HISTORY OF JOHN EPHRIAM MOULTON
(maternal great grandfather)
compiled by--
Florence M. Anderson (grand daughter)
Ethel M. Watson (daughter)
Addison C. Moulton (son)

In 1860 the Moulton family moved from Provo to Heber City, Utah. The settlers in Heber were having trouble with the INdians, they had built a log fort in the northwest part of town, starting on 1st west and 3rd north, running north and west to 3rd west. It afforded protection to 66 families. Moultons helped to finish the fort and moved into it.

September 16, 1960, John Ephraim Moulton was born. He was the ninth child of Thomas and Sarah Denton Moulton. He was an ambitious young man and secured a job working for his brother William who lived on a ranch north of Heber. He drove a wagon for his brother; taking farm produce from the ranch to Park City, Utah. While he was working here he met Isabell Thacker who later became his wife in the Endowment house March 23, 1882. Daniel Wells performed the ceremony. To this couple 8 children were born.

For details of family life, see"History of Isabell Thacker Moulton, wife of John Ephraim Moulton."

Fred W. Giles, who had married John's older sister, Mary ann, along with John Crook, who was a very good friend, secured a pubmill and milds to make bricks in the South Field; the bricks to be used in building homes for themselves. When they first started, they could make 3000 bricks per day, but after a month, they were able to make 6000. Next they went to the rock quarry east of Heber and quarried sand rock for the foundation of their new homes. They then went to Joseph's Smither's sawmill to get out the lumber. Arthur Brooder laid the brick and John Watkins the plastering. By 1889 each of these men had a nice new home for his family. These houses are still in use today, even though they are 68 years old. Dewey Moulton lives in the home built by his father, John E. Moulton.

When John was a young man he joined the dramatic society of the valley. He acted in many of their plays. They began to build a theatre building but the Bishop thought it was not right to build a theatre when they needed a church, so the work on it ceases. It was never finished and the two rock walls stood for years. One of the plays John was in was the Octoroon. Willam Aird, Amelia Fortie, Fred Crook, John Fortie, Levi Montgomery, George Cluff, Fred Clegg and John T. Giles were also in the cast.

On May 17, 1890, Border Land was presented for the benefit of John Moulton, who was going on a mission. It was the custom of this group to give a benefit for any member of the community who left for a mission.

John was tall and slender and wore a black moustache. His hair was black and wavy. His eyes were dark blue.

At the time John was called on his mission, he had three small children. Thomas Moulton, John's father had buried his wife and was living alone so he went to live with John's family and help care for them while John was in the mission field. John wentto the Northern States Mission, where he was assigned to be district president and travel throgh the mission organizing Sunday Schools and hunting up lost saints, Andrew Johnson and Robert Duke from Heber werein the same mission; so when any one of the three men would write home, their families would get together and read the letters. When John had been in the mission field twenty-two months, his father became very ill. He was given an honorable relase to come. Shortly after he returned, his father passed away.

John Made his living at farming and stock raising at which he was very successful. He was kind hearted and gnerous. He was always taking sacks of flour to the widows or those less fortunate than he. He often signed notes with his friends and relatives who were having trouble and not doing so well. Many of these notes he had to pay. He taught his family to be generous.

Two of his wife's brothers' children made their home with John and his family after their mother died. Their names were Claude and Pearl Thacker.

John taught Theology classes and to this day many of his pupils tell what a wonderful teacher he was. He was a councilor to Bishop Hicken. He worked as superintendent of the Sunday Schools and was head of the finance committee when they were building the Heber Second Ward church. He also worked with the finance committee when they were building the Heber Social Hall. He was on the High Council for many years and traveled with his horse and buggy throughout the Wasatch Stake to fill the appointments made for him at this time.

John was also active in politics. He served on the City council for ten years and held many positions of trust. When he was running for Mayor, his opponent Dr. Ray Hatch tells us that John came to him and said. "Let's have a clean campaign. Let's not say bad things about each other." This campaign, according to the Wasatch Wave, was a very exciting one. John E. Moulton was victorious and filled the position with honor. The Heber power plant was erected during his administration. He was elected November, 1913, and held this position until his death February, 1915.

The following is an account found in the Wasatch WAve.

"On Wednesday morning of this week the people of Heber were shocked to learn of the death of their Mayor, John E. Moulton, as a result of complications ending with pneumonia. The funeral services will be held at the Stake Tabernacle Friday at 1:00 p. m.

"Mr Moulton was known by all and was highly respected. He has filled many positions of trust both in the church and in civic life and has quited himself well.

"His illness was of briefduration. On Wednesday night of last week he attended the show and after returning home and retiring, took a chill. He wad carefully nursed from that time until he died, but without lasting results. Brights disease took it's part in weakening the system and when the fatal pneumonia set in, friends and relatives feared the result though they remained hopeful to the last.

"The family have the sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement."

The following is a brief summary taken from the Wave, Feb. 12, 1915.

"All business houses were closed in Heber last Friday afternoon during the time of funeral services of Mayor J. C. Moulton, whose death is mourned by the community of over which he presided. The services were held in the Stake Tabernacle. The building was filled to overflowing. President Jay C. Jensnn presided over the services, together with other members of the stake presidency. The high council members and members of the city council were seated on the rostum. The Heber Second Ward choir sang, "Though Deepening Trials." Prayer was offered by H. L. McMullen after which "Some Time We'll Understand", was rendered by Frank S. Epperson, J. R. Smith, Frank Ryan and Jowett Fortie, as a quartette.

"First speaker was John H. Murdock on behalf of the City Council. He said Mayor Moulton had always done his full part. He referred to the deceased as an honest man. He said the Bible says, "Am honest man is the noblest work of God." He was also a man of excellent judgment.

"J. H. McDonald said hislife had been made better because of his association with Brother Moulton. They had worked together for fifteen years. He also spoke of the resurrection and said Brother Moulton would receive his just reward for all the good he had done.

"Choir-- 'Oh my Father"

"President J. R. Murdock said the departed had been a man of righteousness and integrity with whom he was pleased to be acquainted in life. Many other good things were said about him and that he had gone to meet his reward.

"Bishop Joseph A. Rasband said he was glad to be present even on this sad occation and speak a word in behalf of this good man, who had been firm in his convictions, a faithful worker and one of the main stays of the Heber Second Ward. Heber City has lost one of its most active men.

"President Jenson said in his closing remarks, "Everything the speakers had said about Brother Moulton was true. He was sure he had earned a great reward."

"Choir--'Nearer My God to Thee'

"Closing prayer--E. D. Clyde."